

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
KEY WEST BUREAU**



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MFL-6006
10 March 1986

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Key West Bureau--February 1986

I. GENERAL

Deputy Director [] TDY 27-28 February gave us the opportunity to get together with a number of local military luminaries including NAS Commanding Officer Capt. Ray Sullivan. The weather could not have been better for a delightful outdoor luncheon at the Casa Marina resort, followed by a command briefing at U.S. Forces Caribbean and visits to the J-2 Intelligence Center and Naval Security Group's operations area. It was unfortunate that D/DS&T Evan Hineman, whose visit would have coincided with that of [] had to cancel his trip due to illness. Bureau staff welcomed the opportunity to get out of the office and into the sunshine, as well as being brought up to date on developments at headquarters.

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For those not tired of reading or hearing about the subject, the bureau housing project is finally well above ground and, although the Navy still feels it will be completed on schedule in May, there is still a long way to go after over 4 months of work. An inspection of the site by officials of the Florida Department of Environmental Resources (DER) pointed out the need for an expansion of the existing seawall fronting the project to protect the units from high water raised by storm activity. The local NAS Public Works Office has initiated paperwork through NAVFAC/Charleston and estimates total additional cost at \$11-15K. The design/bid proposal will be separate from the housing project so as not to give the builder an excuse for extending the contracted completion date.

The 80-ft Rohn TV tower was reerected on 19 February, after emplacement of a new concrete base and anchors. Taking advantage of the presence of a 25-ton crane with a 100-ft boom, a three-man Dynalectron team spent 5 and 1/2 hours dismantling the CH 2-6 log periodic quad-array from our second Rohn tower, located within the operations building compound. The combined elements weighed approximately 1,000 pounds, far in excess of the recommended limit for this tower.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

In Cuba the main event was the 2-month overdue Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba held 4-7 February and attended by 1,784 delegates and 500 guests. Unlike the first two Cuban party congresses, President Fidel Castro managed to start and end the congress on time and did not preside over a mass rally at the conclusion of the proceedings, although one had been announced previously. Despite the fact that live coverage of the proceedings was limited and very few speeches were carried in full by domestic electronic media, the bureau processed more than 90,000 words of congress-related materials, including the first 2 hours of Castro's 5.5-hour main report to the congress. Other notable materials included several congress resolutions, speeches by assorted foreign delegates, Castro's lengthy presentation of the new Politburo, and a 90-minute rambling, anti-U.S. closing speech which was fed via phone patch to Panama Bureau. The previously tested but untried phone patch system was also used to feed Panama the latter part of Castro's main report. For unexplained reasons Havana has ceased carrying live relays of major events over its international services. Television reception of the opening and closing sessions was excellent, with 5X5 living color.

It should be noted that even though Castro's main report revealed many inadequacies, inefficiencies, labor indiscipline, waste and corruption in Cuban society, the most startling revelation was his decision to unload many old cronies from leading party positions, some of whom had been at his side since long before the triumph of the revolution. He also showed that nepotism is alive and well when he promoted his sister-in-law, Vilma Espin Guillois, to full membership in the exclusive Politburo club. The new leadership lineup showed that some technocrats were rewarded for their efforts, but the most outstanding example of moving up the ladder quickly concerned the promotion of alternate Central Committee members Esteban Lazo Hernandez and Raul Michel Vargas to full and alternate membership respectively in the Politburo. So-called Cuban "minorities" (mulattoes, blacks, and women) also were promoted to high-ranking party posts. All in all, this congress demonstrated that the system may be communist, but Mr. Castro runs an autocracy.

Last but certainly not least, it must be noted that the end product resulting from the congress was the result of a tremendous joint effort by Key West and Panama Bureaus, with long hours and hard work by all concerned. A special vote

of thanks goes to DRD editor [] Panama monitors [] and teletypist [] whose efforts in assisting us on TDY contributed immensely to coverage of this quinquennial event.

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Another very significant event in Cuba was the beginning of a rapprochement between the government and the Catholic Church, although the volume of media play to the ecclesiastical meeting in Havana of Cuban and foreign Church officials was not significant.

The other "main event" in the Caribbean area was the hasty departure from Haiti of "President for Life" Jean-Claude Duvalier (better known as "Baby Doc"). The grand finale and violence that preceded Duvalier's flight to France was covered from all available sources. In anticipation of the lifting of censorship on private media soon after Duvalier's retreat, an intensive cruising effort was undertaken on audible Haitian radios. However, phone patch feeds to both London/BBC and Abidjan Bureaus of recorded Haitian French newscasts, although technically successful, were not of sufficient quality for meaningful processing.

President Reagan's 1-day visit to the island of Grenada on 20 February and meetings with Caribbean leaders generated a brief flurry of reports, including a panel discussion on his visit which was fed live to the bureau from Barbados via phone patch by "Canaradio," a relatively new service of the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA). Subsequent evaluation of Canaradio's daily "Caribbean Today" feature shows it to be mostly a rehash of stories carried earlier by CANA's radioteletype service.

B. Cruising

As noted above, cruising monitor [] had all "four" hands full assisting bureau staff during the Cuban party congress, while simultaneously exerting almost "Herculean" efforts to record locally-originated domestic news from Haiti. A series of Haitian radio behavior reports begun toward the end of January continued through the first half of February. Of the several stations audible in Key West, only Church-run Radio Soleil in Port-au-Prince has been monitored carrying potentially productive local newscasts, but splashover interference from nearby Radio Marti -- which put a new transmitter into operation and expanded operations to 18 hours daily -- cannot as yet be overcome. Several avenues of potential relief are being actively explored in cooperation with VOA/Radio Marti personnel locally and in Washington.

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C. Technical

Preparations are underway for mounting a Scala Yagi TV antenna array on the newly erected Rohn tower. Fabrication of an "H"-frame support and installation of the antennas should be complete by mid-March. We are also awaiting delivery of a locally-procured rotatable FM antenna which will be mounted on the same tower above the Yagi array.

The single-array Hermes loop antenna shipped from Bangkok Bureau several months ago will be installed by Dynalectron personnel as soon as possible, but not before the TV antenna project is complete. It will be tested in two different orientations (southwest for shortwave signals from Mexico and Central America and southeast for coverage of northeastern South America). We are also still awaiting approval from NAS Boca Chica to install an experimental 2,500-ft longwire for potentially improved reception of Dominican Republic, Haiti, and northern Antilles.

Sections of the "Bureau Fact Book" were updated and forwarded to ESG/FED/FSB, including modified antenna layouts and in-house TV signal routing, and new pages showing bureau floor plans.

D. Liaison

A special documentary prepared by the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces film studio and dedicated to the Third PCC Congress has been a big hit in local, and presumably Washington-area, military circles. The film, aired during the congress, is unique in that it contains excellent color footage of relatively recent air force, navy and army training exercises, including live-fire demonstrations. Well worth the "price of admission," so to speak, is a couple of medium shots of oxen pulling bomb carts and MiG-21's around an airfield parking area.

At the request of Radio Marti, Miami area correspondent Alvaro Insua was present for the opening and closing sessions of the Cuban party congress so as to gather first-hand impressions of the proceedings for relay by phone to his headquarters.

Although I'm sure the DAILY REPORT was not impressed, on 3 February the bureau received a gracious note of thanks from the BBC for our "extra effort" in prompt filing of political reaction to a somewhat lengthy and controversial tour of the Caribbean by an English cricket team.

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cricket team
in the DTR*

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel/Recruiting

A PHS file on locally-recruited monitor/editor candidate [] was forwarded to headquarters on 22 February for initiation of EOD processing. Applicants [] have completed headquarters processing requirements and are awaiting final determination on EOD eligibility.

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Part-time teletypist [] will soon start intensive training on the IBM PC system with [] who will be leaving with me for "the land of the big PX" this summer. A promising local candidate for her position in the communications section, [] will be put in for EOD processing upon return of a completed PHS.

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B. Building & Grounds

A local landscaping company, From Earth & Sea, has completed resodding of entire operations building compound and beautification of plant beds in front of building. The company will also perform regular mowing and other maintenance of grounds and antenna fields.

Just in case you were wondering, the hole in the roof is still there, as well as our interior "swimming pool." Will be fixed soon -- we hope.

IV. VISITS

1. DRD editor [] "vacationed" at bureau 31 January-13 February to provide support during PCC Congress.

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2. Panama monitors [] and teletypist [] provided TDY support 3-13 February.

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3. Civilians Steve Truchinsky, Warren Meekins, and Navy Capt. David Welbourn, from NAVFAC headquarters in Alexandria, VA, visited bureau 10-11 February for consultations on FBIS housing project with bureau and local NAS officials.

4. The bureau chief, electronic specialist [] and communications supervisor [] visited COMUSFORCARIB J-6 Commanding Officer CDR Phil McKnight on 14 February for discussion of rerouting our commo path to NAVCOMMUNIT at Boca Chica through his shop so as to bypass ancient Southern Bell cables which suffer frequent outages during the rainy season.

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5. New ESG/ADD staffer [] visited bureau on
18 February for orientation and briefing on field operations
while in Key West on private travel.

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6. FBIS Deputy Director [] visited bureau on
27-28 February at the tail end of a long TDY inspection tour.

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Chief, Key West Bureau

Attachment:

Production Report

Photo of DCI's Visit 30 Dec 85

cc: C/Panama, C/Paraguay Bureaus

KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 185,140

TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH : 40,660

TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH : 553

	BROADCAST	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	2,575	14,700	21
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER WEEK	MIN	MIN	ISSUES

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

BAHAMAS

Nassau Domestic Service in English	<u>230</u>		
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Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English			<u>- 0 -</u>
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BARBADOS

Bridgetown CANA in English		<u>73,350</u>	
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Bridgetown ADVOCATE in English			<u>100</u>
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Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English			<u>- 0 -</u>
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BELIZE

Belize City Domestic Service in English	<u>- 0 -</u>		
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CUBA

Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish	<u>4,100</u>		
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Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish	<u>6,140</u>		
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Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>12,460</u>		
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Havana Radio Periodico Del Aire in Spanish	<u>2,490</u>		
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KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1986

CUBA

Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>24,870</u>
Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish	<u>17,220</u>
Havana Television Service in Spanish	<u>18,430</u>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish	<u>- 0 -</u>
Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish	<u>730</u>

JAMAICA

Kingston Domestic Service in English	<u>300</u>
Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English	<u>250</u>
Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English	<u>330</u>

MEXICO

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish	<u>18,830</u>
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NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Bonaire Trans World Radio in English	<u>3,700</u>
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THE NETHERLANDS

Hilversum International in English	<u>390</u>
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OTHER SOURCES:

BARBADOS

Canaradio in English	<u>840</u>
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SANTO DOMINGO

Santo Domingo Radio Mil in Spanish	<u>380</u>
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